

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 7, 9-11, 17, and 19 are now pending in the application. No new matter has been added. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 11, 17, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barth (U.S. Pat. No. 4,955,744) in view of Kanaan et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,947,671). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner indicated that claim 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 11 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 18 as well certain limitations of claims 17. Accordingly, claim 11 should now be allowable. Furthermore, since claims 17 and 19 depend from claim 11, for the same reason claim 11 is now allowable, claims 17 and 19 should be allowed.

ALLOWED SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1, 2, 7, 9, and 10 have been allowed.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner

reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (410) 716-2886.

Respectfully submitted,

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